

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amendment, is respectfully requested.

The abstract has been amended to overcome the objection thereto.

Claims 1-17, 19-24 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Afanassieva alone or in view of Dukor. Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over the foregoing further in view of Corenman. Claim 25 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over the combination of Afanassieva alone or in view of Dukor, further in view of Soller. Claims 26 and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Afanassieva alone or in view of Dukor, further in view of Kittrell. Applicants reposefully traverse each of these rejections.

Afanassieva disclosed nothing about atherosclerosis, nor does Dukor.

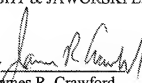
Kittrell uses laser light from a catheter to intravascularly treat atherosclerotic disease, rather than to detect or diagnose it.

In view of the foregoing, allowance is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 50-0624, under Order No. NY-LBNL-238-US.

Respectfully submitted

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